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**From:** Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/12/2016 3:00:01 PM  
**To:** Davis, Natasha [Davis.Natasha@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Bahrman, Sarah [Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Due 12/9: Oglala Sioux Tribe Core Team

Hi Natasha: based on our recent discussion, please see my responses below. Based on your working knowledge of, and circumstances surrounding Dewey Burdock, I would appreciate your recommendation on whether UIC should be represented on the Core Team.

Due to remote access issues while teleworking on Friday, I was not able to respond until today.

Douglas

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**From:** Bahrman, Sarah  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2016 1:51 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Gwen <Campbell.Gwen@epa.gov>; Minter, Douglas <Minter.Douglas@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Due 12/9: Oglala Sioux Tribe Core Team  
**Importance:** High

Hi Gwen and Douglas –

Please see below for the first ETEP Core Team responses due to Natasha by 12/9. Depending on your needs in UIC and DW, please decide whether to have a staff person engaged in the Core Team.

Let me know if you want to discuss.

Thanks!

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Safe Drinking Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8  
(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

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**From:** Davis, Natasha  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 10:47 AM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Videtich, Callie <Videtich.Callie@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Oglala Sioux Tribe Core Team

Hi Sarah,

You were supposed to receive just the Safe Drinking Water Program part of the questionnaire. I was trying out a MS Word Mail Merge, and it didn't work. Sorry. Please just respond to the Water portion I copied below. I would appreciate a response by COB Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your help,

Natasha

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Natasha Davis  
US EPA Region 8  
(303) 312-6225

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**From:** Davis, Natasha  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 10:36 AM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah <[Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov](mailto:Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Oglala Sioux Tribe Core Team

## **EPA Priorities Questionnaire**

### **Safe Drinking Water Program - Pine Ridge Reservation**

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EPA American Indian Environmental Office has tasked all federally recognized tribes who receive General Assistance Program (GAP) funding and the Regional offices to create an EPA-Tribal Environmental Plan (ETEP). The ETEP is a five year strategic planning document which can be evaluated annually. The ETEP has four components and one of the four components is a list of EPA's environmental and human health priorities for each reservation.

You are being asked to complete this questionnaire on behalf of the Safe Drinking Water Program for the activities being conducted by your program on the Pine Ridge Reservation. TAP understands that there may be several areas of important work being done by the Safe Drinking Water Program on the Pine Ridge Reservation. This questionnaire is meant to provide some guidance to the Safe Drinking Water Program on what types of actions rise to the top of the list of priorities for the in the next 1 - 5 years. It is okay to answer no, none, or not applicable to a question if it does not apply to your program. When a question does apply to your program please provide at least a sentence or two describing the answer; comprehensive answers are not necessary at this time.

- 1) What is the single most important/pressing/urgent priority for the Safe Drinking Water Program that needs immediate resolution on the Pine Ridge Reservation? See UIC response in Question 3.
  - a. List your Program's milestone activities to address this priority, with estimated completion dates
  - b. What is preventing the EPA and/or the Oglala Sioux Tribe from correcting the problem?
  
- 2) What is likely to cause the next significant drinking water or UIC problem for the Pine Ridge Reservation? See UIC response in Question 3.
  - a. Are there any small problems that could grow into big problems?
  - b. What can the EPA and/or the Oglala Sioux Tribe do to mitigate this future problem?
  
- 3) Are you aware of any human or environmental health issues a community on the Pine Ridge Reservation has raised that the EPA has the ability to address? If so, please list the community and their issues and whether the Safe Drinking Water Program is engaged.

The UIC program will be issuing draft permits in early 2017 for public comment on a proposed uranium in-situ recovery project approximately 40 miles west of the Reservation along the SD/WY border. OST leadership has formally engaged with EPA Regional leaders expressing their significant concerns, some of which were presented to EPA during a meeting in Denver in June, 2016. These include potential impacts to sacred, historical or cultural resources important to OST in/around the project site. In addition, OST leaders have asked that EPA not conduct community outreach or public hearings on the Reservation as part of EPA's UIC permitting process. EPA will, however, conduct such events within a reasonable commuting distance from the Reservation so that those tribal members who wish to attend can do so. EPA has also committed to consult with OST leaders throughout the UIC permitting process if OST leaders wish to do so. The completion of EPA's permitting process is uncertain as EPA expects to receive many comments from a variety of stakeholders including OST and other tribal nations. The EPA will be contacting all interested tribes including OST upon issuing these draft permits.

- 4) What activities does the Safe Drinking Water Program have on the Pine Ridge Reservation?

Historically, the UIC program has authorized some large capacity septic systems and closed a few motor vehicle waste disposal wells under its Class V DI program. These activities included entrance and exit briefings for the Environmental Director (if requested) and tribal inspectors typically accompanied EPA inspectors in the field. Our program will continue to be responsive to any complaints or concerns regarding shallow injection wells in order to ensure that surficial groundwater is protected. To date, there has been no deep injection well activities on the Reservation.

5) If your program provides grant funding, is this funding amount adequate for the Oglala Sioux Tribe's environmental needs? **N/A**

